

App. No. 10/813,418

Amendment Dated: July 5, 2007

Reply to Office Action of April 5, 2007

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended as set forth above. Claims 1-10 and 23 are cancelled.

New claims 24-33 are added. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance.

I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 11-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,430,584 issued to Comer et al. (hereinafter "Comer"). Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection. Independent claim 11 has been amended to clarify the following combination of features that is not taught or suggested by the cited reference:

setting a spreadsheet formula to a first spreadsheet cell;

in response to setting the spreadsheet formula to the first spreadsheet cell, obtaining a formula previously set to the spreadsheet cell;

identifying a cell reference to a second spreadsheet cell in at least one member of a group comprising: the spreadsheet formula set to the first spreadsheet cell and the spreadsheet formula previously set to the first spreadsheet cell;

in response to setting the spreadsheet formula to the first spreadsheet cell, determining whether data associated with the first spreadsheet cell should be redirected to the second spreadsheet cell identified by the cell reference; and

redirecting data associated with the first spreadsheet cell to the second spreadsheet cell for entry into the second spreadsheet cell when data associated with the first spreadsheet cell is redirected to the second spreadsheet cell identified by the cell reference.

The above combination of features is not taught or suggested by the cited reference.

Comer teaches an automatic calculator. The calculator is used for making a quick value determination in a spreadsheet when the user does not want the value to be permanently associated with the spreadsheet. For example, as shown in Figure 3, a user may set a formula to

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a summation formula. The user may then highlight various portions of the spreadsheet and the summation of the highlighted portion is calculated in field 62. Field 62 is not associated with the spreadsheet fields. It is used for quick references. If the user highlights a different set of cells, a new value is displayed in field 62. Comer does not teach the combination of "identifying a cell reference to a second spreadsheet cell in at least one member of a group comprising: the spreadsheet formula set to the first spreadsheet cell and the spreadsheet formula previously set to the first spreadsheet cell," and "in response to setting the spreadsheet formula to the first spreadsheet cell, determining whether data associated with the first spreadsheet cell should be redirected to the second spreadsheet cell identified by the cell reference." Therefore, Comer cannot possibly teach "redirecting data associated with the first spreadsheet cell to the second spreadsheet cell for entry into the second spreadsheet cell when data associated with the first spreadsheet cell is redirected the second spreadsheet cell identified by the cell reference." Accordingly applicants believe that claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

With regard to dependent claims 12-22, they include features that are not taught or suggested by the cited reference. Moreover, dependent claims 12-22 ultimately depend from independent claim 11. As such, they should be found allowable for at least those same reasons.

With regard to new claims 24-33, they do not include new matter. Applicants assert that they include features that are not taught or suggested by the cited reference. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the same.

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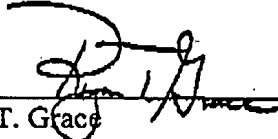
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II. Request for reconsideration

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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